

W A Y

4. Course; direction of motion.
I now go toward him, therefore follow me.
And mark what way I make. *Shakef. Winter Tale.*
He stood in the gate, and ask'd of ev'ry one,
Which way she took, and whither she was gone. *Dryden.*
Attending long in vain, I took the way,
Which through a path, but scarcely printed, lay. *Dryden.*
With downward force he took his way,
And roll'd his yellow billows to the sea. *Dryden.*
My seven brave brothers, in one fatal day,
To death's dark mansions took the mournful way. *Dryden.*
To observe every the least difference that is in things, keeps
the understanding steady and right in its way to know-
ledge. *Locke.*
5. Advance in life.
The boy was to know his father's circumstances, and that
he was to make his way by his own industry. *Spektor, N. 123.*
6. Passage; power of progression made or given.
Back do I tols these treasons to thy head:
This sword of mine shall give them instant way,
Where they shall rest for ever. *Shakef. K. Lear.*
Th' angelick choirs,
On each hand parting, to his speed gave way,
Through all th' empyreal road. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. v.*
Youth and vain confidence thy life betray:
Through armies this has made Melantius' way. *Waller.*
The reason may be, that men seldom come into those
posts, till after forty; about which time the natural heat be-
ginning to decay, makes way for those distempers. *Temple.*
The air could not readily get out of those prisons, but by
degrees, as the earth and water above would give way. *Bacon.*
As a soldier, foremost in the fight,
Makes way for others. *Dryden.*
Some make themselves way, and are suggested to the mind
by all the ways of sensation and reflection. *Locke.*
7. Vacancy made by timorous or respectful recession.
There would be left no difference between truth and false-
hood, if what we certainly know, give way to what we may
possibly be mistaken in. *Locke.*
Nor was he satisfy'd, unless he made the pure profession of
the gospel give way to superstition and idolatry, wherever he
had power to expel the one, and establish the other. *Atterbury.*
I would give way to others, who might argue very well
upon the same subject. *Swift.*
8. Local tendency.
Come a little nearer this way.
I warrant thee no body hears. *Shakef. Mer. Wives of Windsor.*
9. Course; regular progression.
But give me leave to seize my destin'd prey,
And let eternal justice take the way. *Dryden.*
10. Situation where a thing may probably be found.
These inquiries are never without baseness, and very
often useless to the curious inquirer. For men stand upon
their guards against them, laying all their counsels and secrets
out of their way. *Taylor's Rule of Living Holy.*
11. A situation or course obstructive and obviating.
The imagination being naturally tumultuous, interposeth
itself without asking leave, casting thoughts in our way, and
forcing the understanding to reflect upon them. *Duffie.*
12. Tendency to any meaning, or act.
There is nothing in the words that sounds that way, or
points particularly at perfection. *Atterbury.*
13. Access; means of admittance.
Being once at liberty, 'twas said, having made my way with
some foreign prince, I would turn pirate. *Raleigh.*
14. Sphere of observation.
The general officers, and the publick ministers that fell in
my way, were generally subject to the gout. *Temple.*
15. Means; mediate instrument; intermediate step.
By noble ways we conquest will prepare;
First offer peace, and that refus'd, make war. *Dryden.*
What conceivable ways are there, whereby we should
come to be assured that there is such a being as God? *Tillotson.*
A child his mother so well instructed this way in geography,
that he knew the limits of the four parts of the world. *Locke.*
It is not impossible to God to make a creature with more
ways to convey into the understanding the notice of corporeal
things, than those five he has given to man. *Locke.*
16. Method; scheme of management.
He durst not take open way against them, and as hard it
was to take a secret, they being so continually followed by
the best, and every way ablett of that region. *Sidney, b. ii.*
Will not my yielded crown redeem my breath?
Still am I fear'd? is there no way but death? *Daniel.*
As by calling evil good, a man is misrepresented to him-
self in the way of flattery; so by calling good evil, he is mis-
represented to others, in the way of slander. *South's Sermons.*
Now what impious ways my wishes took?
The senate, forced to yield to the tribunes of the people,
thought it their wisest course to give way also to the time. *Swift.*

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17. Private determination.
He was of an high mind, and loved his own will and his way,
as one that revered himself, and would reign indeed. *Bacon.*
If I had my way,
He had mov'd in flames at home, not i' th' fenae;
I had sing'd his furs by this time. *B. Johnson's Catiline.*
18. Manner; mode.
She with a calm carelessness let every thing slide, as we do
by their speeches, who neither in matter nor person do any
way belong unto us. *Sidney.*
God hath so many times and ways spoken to men. *Hooker.*
Few writers make an extraordinary figure, who have not
something in their way of thinking or expressing, that is en-
tirely their own. *Spektor, N. 160.*
His way of expressing and applying them, not his inven-
tion of them, is what we admire. *Addison.*
19. Method; manner of practice.
Having lost the way of nobleness, he strove to climb to the
height of terribleness. *Sidney.*
Matter of mirth,
She could devise, and thousand ways invent,
To feed her foolish humour, and vain jolliment. *Spenser.*
Taught
To liveth' easiest way, not with perplexing thoughts. *Milton.*
20. Method or plan of life, conduct, or action.
A physician, unacquainted with your body, may put you
in a way for a present cure, but overthroweth your health in
some other kind. *Bacon.*
To attain
The height and depth of thy eternal way,
All human thought comes short. *Milton.*
When a man sees the prodigious expanse our forefathers
have been at in these barbarous buildings, one cannot but
fancy what miracles they would have left us, had they only
been instructed in the right way. *Addison on Italy.*
21. Right method to act or know.
We are quite out of the way, when we think that things con-
tain within themselves the qualities that appear to us in them. *Locke.*
They are more in danger to go out of the way, who are
marching under the conduct of a guide that will mislead them,
than he that has not yet taken a step, and is liker to en-
quire after the right way. *Locke.*
By me, they offer all that you can ask,
And point an easy way to happiness. *Rousseau.*
22. General scheme of acting.
Men who go out of the way to hint free things, must be
guilty of absurdity, or rudeness. *Clarissa.*
23. By the way. Without any necessary connection with the
main design; en passant.
Note, by the way, that unity of continuance is easier to
procure, than unity of species. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
Will. Honeycomb, now on the verge of threescore, asked
me, in his most serious look, whether I would advise him to
marry lady Betty Single, who, by the way, is one of the
greatest fortunes about town. *Spektor, N. 475.*
24. To go or come one's way, or ways; to come along, or depart.
A familiar phrase.
Nay, come your way;
This is his majesty, say your mind to him. *Shakespeare.*
To a boy fast asleep upon the brink of a river, fortune
came and wak'd him; prithee get up, and go thy way, thou'll
tumble in and be drown'd else. *Leffrange.*
25. Way and ways, are now often used corruptly for wife.
But if he shall any ways make them void after he hath
heard them, then he shall bear her iniquity. *Numb. xxx. 15.*
They erect conclusions no way inferible from their pre-
misses. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
Being sent to reduce Paros, he mistook a great fire at a
distance for the fleet, and being no ways a match for them,
set sail for Athens. *Swift.*
'Tis no way the interest even of priesthood. *Pope.*
- WAYBREAD. *n. s.* A plant.
WAYFARER. *n. s.* [way and fare, to go.] Passenger; tra-
veller.
Howsoever, many wayfarers make themselves glee, by put-
ting the inhabitants in mind of this privilege; who again,
especially the women, forswear not to bairn them. *Carew.*
- WAYFARING. *adj.* Travelling; passing; being on a journey.
They to whom all this is revealed, if they will not be di-
rected into a path so plain and smoothed, that the wayfaring
men, though fools, shall not err therein, must needs acknow-
ledge themselves in the number of the blind, that will not
enter into God's rest. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*
- WAYFEARING TREE. *n. s.* [viburnum, Lat.] A plant.
The flower consists of one leaf, which is divided into five
parts, and expands in a circular order; these are collected in-
to the form of an umbrella: the ovary, which is placed on
the upper part of the flower, becomes a soft berry, full of juice,
which contains one stony compressed furrowed seed. *Miller.*
To WAYLAY. *v. a.* [way and lay.] To watch insidiously in
the way; to beset by ambush. *I will*

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- I will waylay thee going home, where if it be thy chance to
kill me,—thou kill'st me like a rogue and a villain. *Shakef.*
The employment of money is chiefly merchandizing or
purchasing; and usury waylays both: it dulls and damps all
industries. *Bacon.*
How thou lurk'st
In valley or green meadow to waylay
Some beauty rare. *Milton's Paradise Regained.*
Now on their coasts our conquering navy rides,
Waylays their merchants, and their land besets,
Each day asleep with prizes in their nets. *Dryden.*
I hey lay asleep with prizes in their nets.
Like hunted castors, conscious of their store,
Their waylaid wealth to Norway's coasts they bring. *Dryd.*
WAYLAYER. *n. s.* [from waylay.] One who waits in ambush
for another.
WAYLESS. *adj.* [from way.] Pathless; untracked.
When on upon my wayless walk,
As my desires me draw,
I, like a madman fell to talk
With every thing I saw. *Dryden's Queen of Cythra.*
WAYMARK. *n. s.* [way and mark.] Mark to guide in tra-
velling.
Set thee up waymarks, make thee high heaps. *Jer. xxxi. 21.*
To WAYMENT. *v. a.* [way, Saxons.] To lament, or grieve.
Obsolete.
What boots it to weep and to wayment,
When ill is chanc'd, but doth the ill increase,
And the weak mind with double woe torment. *Fairy Queen.*
WAYWARD. *adj.* pa. way, and way, Saxons.] Froward;
peevish; morose; vexatious.
That night the elder it was, the more wayward it shewed
itself towards them. *Sidney.*
How wayward is this foolish love,
That like a teffy babe, will scratch the nurse,
And presently all humbled, kiss the rod.
Wayward beauty doth not fancy move,
A frown forbids, a smile engend'reth love. *Fairfax.*
To mischief bent,
He seldom does a good with good intent;
Wayward, but wile; by long experience taught
To please both parties, for ill ends he fought. *Dryden.*
WAYWARDLY. *adv.* [from wayward.] Frowardly; per-
versely.
Waywardly proud; and therefore bold: because extremely
faultry. *Sidney.*
Howsoever, some will still be waywardly disposed; yet if
such as be in authority will do their duties, they may by con-
venient discipline be kept within the bounds of modesty, or
else removed. *Whitegill.*- WAYWARDNESS. *n. s.* [from wayward.] Frowardness; per-
verseness.
Such the behaviour of ladies, as builded their chastity not
upon waywardness, but choice of worthiness. *Sidney.*
The best of his time hath been but rash; then must we look
from his age to receive not alone the imperfections of long en-
graved condition; but the unruly waywardness that infirm and
choleric years bring. *Shakespeare.*
A child will have as much wit as he hath waywardness.
Watson on Education.
- WE. *pronoun.* [See I.]
- 1. The plural of I.
Retire we to our chamber,
A little water clears us of this deed. *Shakespeare.*
Fair and noble hostels,
We are your guests to night. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
Notwithstanding animals had nothing like the use of reason,
we find in them all the lower parts of our nature, in the
greatest strength.
- 2. Improperly and ungrammatically for the oblique case, us.
To poor we,
Thine enmity's most capital. *Shakespeare.*
WEAK. *adj.* [weak, Saxons; weak, Dutch.]
- 1. Feeble; not strong.
He is weary and weak handed. *2 Sam. xvii. 2.*
Here only weak,
Against the charm of beauty's powerful glance. *Milton.*
Wer't thou not weak with hunger, mad with love,
My hand should force thee. *Dryden.*
Fame and reputation are weak ties: many have not the
least sense of them: powerful men are only awed by them as
they conduce to their interest. *Dryden.*
Children, being by the course of nature born weak, and un-
able to provide for themselves, they have, by the appointment
of God, a right to be maintained by their parents. *Locke.*
- 2. Infirm; not healthy.
Here I stand your brave,
A poor, infirm, weak, and despis'd old man. *Shakespeare.*
3. Soft; pliant; not stiff.
4. Low of sound.
A voice not soft, weak, piping and womanish; but audible,
strong and manlike. *Ascham.*

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5. Feeble of mind; wanting spirit; wanting discernment.
As the case stands with this present age, full of tongue and
weak of brain, we yield to the stream thereof. *Hooker.*
This murder'd prince, though weak he was,
He was not ill, nor yet to weak, but that
He shew'd much martial valour in his place. *Daniel.*
She first his weak indulgence will accuse. *Milton.*
That Portugal hath yet no more than a suspension of arms,
they may thank the Whigs, whose false representations they
were so weak to believe. *Swift.*
6. Not much impregnated with any ingredient: as a weak tinc-
ture, weak beer.
7. Not powerful; not potent.
I must make fair weather yet a while,
Till Henry be more weak and I more strong. *Shakespeare.*
The weak, by thinking themselves strong, are induced to
venture and proclaim war against that which ruins them; and
the strong, by concealing themselves weak, are thereby ren-
dered unactive and useless. *South's Sermons.*
If the poor found the rich disposed to supply their wants,
or if the weak might always find protection from the mighty,
they could none of them lament their own condition. *Swift.*
8. Not well supported by argument.
A case so weak and feeble hath been much persifed in. *Hooker.*
9. Unfortified.
To quell the tyrant love, and guard thy heart
On this weak side, where most our nature fails,
Would be a conquest worthy Cato's son. *Addison's Cato.*
To WEAKEN. *v. a.* To debilitate; to enfeeble; to deprive of
strength.
The first which weakened them was their security. *Hooker.*
Their hands shall be weakened from the work that it be not
done. *Levi. vi. 9.*
Intestine broils,
Weakening the scepter of old night. *Milton.*
Every violence offered to the body weakens and impairs it,
and renders it less durable. *Ray on the Creation.*
Let us not weaken still the weaker side
By our divisions. *Addison's Cato.*
Solemn impressions that seem to weaken the mind, may, by
proper reflection, be made to strengthen it. *Clarissa.*
- WEAKLING. *n. s.* [from weak.] A feeble creature.
Thou art no Atlas for so great a weight;
And, weakling, Warwick takes his gift again,
And Henry is my king, Warwick his subject. *Shakespeare.*
Æsop begged his companions not to overcharge him; they
found him a weakling, and bade him please himself. *L'Estrange.*
- WEAKLY. *adv.* [from weak.]
1. Feebly; with want of strength.
The motion of gravity worketh weakly, both far from the
earth, and also within the earth. *Bacon.*
Was plighted faith so weakly seal'd above,
That for one error, I must lose your love? *Dryden.*
2. Indifferently; injudiciously; timorously; with feebleness of mind.
This high gift of strength committed to me,
Under the seal of silence could not keep,
But weakly to a woman must reveal it. *Milton.*
Tancred, I neither am dispos'd to make
Request for life, nor offer'd life to take:
Much less deny the deed; but least of all
Beneath pretended justice weakly fall. *Dryden's Fables.*
- WEAKLY. *adj.* [from weak.] Not strong; not healthy.
Being old and weakly, twenty years in prison, it was ten
to one that ever I should have returned. *Raleigh.*
- WEAKNESS. *n. s.* [from weak.]
1. Want of strength; want of force; feebleness.
Troy in our weakness lives, not in her strength. *Shakespeare.*
Argument
Of human weakness rather than of strength. *Milton.*
The General's force, as kept alive by fight,
Now, not oppos'd, no longer can pursue:
Lasting till heav'n had done his courage right,
When he had conquer'd, he his weakness knew. *Dryden.*
New graces yearly like thy works display,
Soft without weakness, without glaring gay. *Pope.*
By such a review we shall discern and strengthen our weak-
nesses with good resolution, and so order our future conversa-
tion as may render us least exposed to falling. *Rogers's Sermons.*
2. Infirmity; unhealthiness.
Persons in those posts derive a weakness of constitution from
the ease and luxury of their ancestors, and the delicacy of their
own education. *Temple.*
3. Want of cogency.
She seems to be conscious of the weakness of those testimo-
nies. *Tillotson.*
4. Want of judgment; want of resolution; foolishness of mind.
Weakness is thy excuse,
And I believe it; weakness to resist
Philistian gold: if weakness may excuse,
What murderer, what traitor, parricide,
Incestuous, sacrilegious, but may plead it?
All wickedness is weakness. *Milton.*